

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 20, 2007

The Honorable Stephen L. Johnson
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., MC1104A
Washington, D.C. 20460-0001

Dear Administrator Johnson:

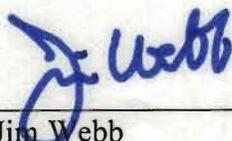
It is our understanding that, in 2005, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), along with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), advised the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) and twelve localities located within the HRSD service area of their need to address sanitary sewer overflows. HRSD and the twelve localities were given until September 2007 to finalize a regional consent order to address the problem.

Since 2005, the Hampton Roads Sanitation District and the twelve localities, in conjunction with DEQ, have been involved in a joint initiative to mitigate sanitary sewer overflows in the region. It is noteworthy that Virginia and the Hampton Roads region have worked with extraordinary coordination, setting aside a variety of specific local concerns to achieve a broad and comprehensive approach in resolving sewer overflow challenges. It is our understanding that this work has been done with EPA officials apprised and participating in the work to develop the plan that your Agency now has - some four months ahead of schedule.

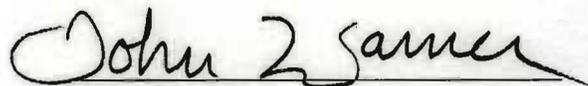
We recently have been informed by HRSD and some of the localities involved that the EPA has recommended that HRSD should be excluded from the State's regional initiative. However, it is the State's and Region's view that, because the wastewater system in Hampton Roads is a complex, interconnected system involving all the individual localities and HRSD, enhancement of the system requires an integrated solution involving the localities and HRSD.

In accordance with all federal laws, rules, and regulations, we respectfully request a response explaining the EPA's decision to recommend the removal of HRSD from the state initiative. We appreciate your consideration, and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

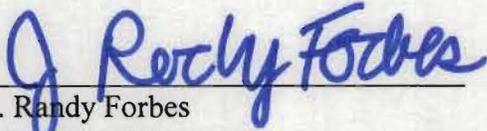


Jim Webb
U.S. Senator

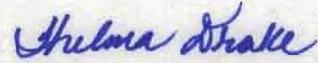


John Warner
U.S. Senator

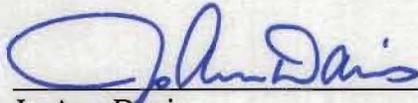
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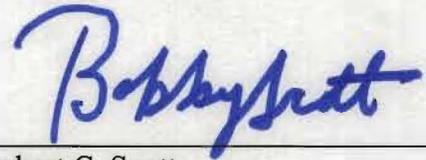
J. Randy Forbes
Member of Congress



Thelma D. Drake
Member of Congress



Jo Ann Davis
Member of Congress



Robert C. Scott
Member of Congress